

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

| 2 | GARY PIERCE | Arizona Corpor | ation Commission |
|----|--|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 | Chairman BOB STUMP | DOC | KETED |
| 4 | Commissioner SANDRA D. KENNEDY Commissioner | APR - 5 2012 | |
| 5 | PAUL NEWMAN Commissioner | DOCKETED E | |
| 6 | BRENDA BURNS Commissioner | | INR |
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| 8 | IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) | | DOCKET NO. T-20760A-10-0398 |
| 9 | OF PAY TEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OR APPROVAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF | | |
| 10 | CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE OPERAT | | DECISION NO |
| 11 | SERVICES TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES. | ` | ORDER |
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| 14 | | <u> </u> | |
| 15 | Open Meeting | | |
| 16 | March 27 and 28, 2012 Phoenix, Arizona | | |
| 17 | BY THE COMMISSION: | | |
| 18 | FINDINGS OF FACT | | |
| 19 | 1 On October 1, 2010, Pay Tel Communications, Inc. ("Pay Tel" or "Compan | | |

- 1. On October 1, 2010, Pay Tel Communications, Inc. ("Pay Tel" or "Company") filed an Application to obtain a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") to provide alternative operator services ("AOS") telecommunications services. On December 1, 2011, Pay Tel filed an Amended Application to change its AOS CC&N Application to an Application for a CC&N to provide customer owned pay telephone ("COPT") service. In addition, the Company included notification that the new representative acting on behalf of Pay Tel is Ms. Robin Norton with Technologies Management, Inc. On January 13, 2012, Pay Tel submitted a filing to clarify that Pay Tel seeks approval of its Application to provide COPT services only.
- 2. The proposed rates, charges, terms and conditions for COPT service are contained in Pay Tel's proposed Customized tariff. Pay Tel's proposed tariff would apply to the provision of

prepaid and collect calling pay telephone services to inmates and persons incarcerated in Correctional/Confinement Institutions within the State of Arizona.

- 3. Pay Tel is currently authorized to provide telecommunications services in all fifty states with the exception of Alaska, Hawaii, Maine, and Texas. Pay Tel is currently providing institutional calling services in eight states which include: Florida, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington.
- 4. The Company contracts individually with correctional facilities based on specific requirements set forth by the facility. The Company sets maximum rates no higher than those on file by certified carriers and those rates approved by this Commission for other competitive institutional service providers. Therefore, although the maximum per call/per minute rate structure is the same for all facilities served, the actual rates can differ.
- 5. A customer information placard was not provided with the Application. Pay Tel stated in its Amended Application that the customer information placard describing the services offered and the instructions for operation are not provided at the phones available to inmates or other incarcerated persons since such objects present a security risk. Pay Tel indicated that inmates receive an information packet containing information on rates, dialing instructions, rules, and any other pertinent information. Information for called parties is available at the facility and on Pay Tel's website. Inmates are not allowed to call any number or person other than those approved by the Correctional Facility.
- 6. Additionally, Pay Tel stated that the following information is provided to users of its services: 1) dialing instructions and rates are available via automated announcements before each call is placed, 2) service limitations are typically imposed by the correctional facility (allowed called-to numbers, call duration, telephone access, etc.), 3) inmates are not allowed access to toll-free telephone numbers, and 4) the toll free customer service number is shown on Local Exchange Company ("LEC") bills and will also be on Pay Tel's website.
- 7. Pay Tel also indicated that it will make the following options available through an automated voice system. The caller and/or called party will be informed of any payphone charges to be assessed as explained below: 1) rate quotes are available upon request via the automated

system at no charge and prior to connection of any call, and 2) the called party may listen to the rates and opt to refuse the call without incurring any charges.

- 8. The Consumer Services Section of the Utilities Division reports no complaints, opinions, or inquiries filed against Pay Tel within Arizona from January 1, 2007 through December 7, 2011. Pay Tel is also in good standing with the Corporations Division of this Commission.
- 9. Staff's research indicates that Pay Tel is a North Carolina company, incorporated in 2009.
- 10. Prepayment mechanisms, such as those described in Pay Tel's tariff relating to Prepaid Debit and Prepaid Collect Services are a form of advance payment. Deposits, prepayments, and advance payments are generally protected by a performance bond or irrevocable sight Draft Letter of Credit ("ISDLC"). Staff has recommended that Pay Tel be required to procure a performance bond or ISDLC in the amount of \$10,000.
- 11. Staff recommended approval of the Amended Application without a hearing pursuant to A.R.S § 40-282.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Pay Tel Communications, Inc. is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Pay Tel Communications, Inc. and the subject matter in this filing.
- 3. The provision of COPT service in Arizona by Pay Tel Communications, Inc. is in the public interest.
- 4. The Company is a fit and proper entity to receive a Certificate for providing COPT service in Arizona.
 - 5. Staff's recommendations are reasonable and should be adopted.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Application of Pay Tel Communications, Inc., for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for authority to provide customer-owned pay telephone service in Arizona is hereby granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

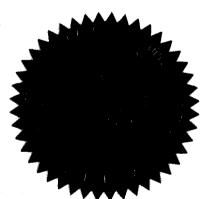
BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Say Silen CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DISSENT:

DISSENT:

SMO:PJG:kdh/BH

SERVICE LIST FOR: Pay Tel Communications, Inc. DOCKET NO. T-20760A-10-0398

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Mr. J. Vincent Townsend, President Pay Tel Communications, Inc. 4230 Beechwood Drive Greensboro, North Carolina 27410